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BASEL CONVENTION

Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal
Eleventh meeting
Geneva, 3–6 September 2018
Item 3 (b) (vi) of the provisional agenda*

Matters related to the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2018–2019: scientific and technical matters: amendments to the annexes to the Basel Convention

Application for the removal of wastes from Annex IX to the Basel Convention

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In its decision VIII/15, on revisions to the procedure for the review or adjustment of the lists of wastes contained in Annexes VIII and IX and the status of decision VII/21, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal adopted the procedure for the review or adjustment of lists of wastes contained in Annexes VIII and IX, as set out in the annex to that decision.

2. Pursuant to that procedure, applications for any changes to the text of Annexes VIII or IX must be submitted to the Secretariat using the form set out in the annex to decision VIII/15. In addition, the Open-ended Working Group is to consider and review the application at its following meeting, provided that the application and any information in addition to the form is submitted to the Secretariat at least three months prior to that meeting. Further, the application must be based on sound scientific assessment in accordance with paragraph 1 (a) of article 1 of the Basel Convention. The Open-ended Working Group should arrive at a decision by consensus and its decision on the placement or removal of wastes on the list contained in Annexes VIII and IX is to be transmitted in a report of the Open-ended Working Group through the Secretariat to the following meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

II. Implementation

3. On 2 June 2018, the Government of Norway transmitted to the Secretariat an application for the removal of entry "B3010: solid plastic wastes" from Annex IX to the Basel Convention. As part of the information provided in the application form under "Summary of reasons for proposed placement", it is indicated that the applicant proposes an amendment to Annex IX to remove entry B3010 in order to provide clarity on the regulation of wastes containing plastics. It is also indicated that the applicant intends at a later stage to propose an amendment to Annex II to the Basel Convention to add a new

* UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/1/Rev.1.

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entry to cover plastic waste. It is further indicated that these proposed amendments to Annexes II and IX are intended to increase the effectiveness of the Basel Convention with regard to plastic wastes, and especially plastic wastes that lead to marine pollution. The application, as received by the Secretariat, is set out in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/INF/36.

4. On 8 June 2018, pursuant to the procedure set out in the annex to decision VIII/15, the Secretariat placed the application on the website of the Basel Convention[1] and sent a communication to all Parties to the Convention to announce that the application made by the Government of Norway was available. Parties were invited to provide comments on the application directly to the applicant by 28 June 2018. On 13 June 2018, the Secretariat sent a follow-up communication to all Parties to the Convention with information relevant to the application that had previously been inadvertently omitted.

5. Any addendum to the application containing answers to the questions received from Parties that is made available by the applicant will be included in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/INF/36.

III. Proposed action

6. Pursuant to decision VIII/15, the Open-ended Working Group is to consider and review the application for removal of wastes from Annex IX as set out in document UNEP/CHW/OEWG.11/INF/36.

[1] http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Communications/tabid/1596/Default.aspx.